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**In the Abstract**

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**Abstract**

A multi-colour printing unit for a web-offset press includes a plurality of printing couple pairs mounted vertically one above the other in a stack, each printing couple of the printing couple pairs including a plate and blanket cylinder and each printing couple pair being arranged so as to print a different colour on both sides of a paper web passing in a vertically upward direction between the printing couples of each pair. An inking system is associated with each print couple operable to supply ink to the plate cylinder thereof in an operative position. The printing unit includes a primary module carrying all the printing couple pairs and a pair of secondary modules carrying the inking systems. The secondary modules are laterally slideable into a non-operative position in which both the secondary modules are separated from the primary module. The printing unit further includes means for moving the primary module out from between the secondary modules when the secondary modules are in their non-operative positions and separated from the primary module to enable a second primary module. A plurality of printing couple pairs in which the plate and blanket cylinders are of a different diameter to the diameter of the plate cylinders of the original primary module, take the place of the original primary module so that the secondary modules can be moved back into an operative position with the second primary module.